

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-34 were previously cancelled.

Claims 40, 41, and 45-47 have been cancelled in response to the election of invention and without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 43, 44, and 48 have been amended and the amendments do not add new matter.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction among the claims of:

Group 1: Claims 35-39, drawn to a method of trading options, classified in class 705, subclass 40.

Group 2: Claims 40 and 41, drawn to a method of determining trading parties, classified in class 705, subclass 40.

Group 3: Claim 42, drawn to a method for real time trading, classified in class 705, subclass 40.

Group 4: Claim 43, drawn to a method of making a request for a quote, classified in class 705, subclass 40.

Group 5: Claim 44 a method for real time trading of options, drawn to 705, classified in class 705, subclass 40.

- Group 6: Claim 45, drawn to a method for real time trading of options, classified in class 705, subclass 40.
- Group 7: Claim 46, drawn to a method of real time trading, classified in class 705, subclass 40.
- Group 8: Claim 47, drawn to a method for real time trading of options, classified in class 705, subclass 40.
- Group 9: Claims 48-49, drawn to a method of real time trading of options, classified in class 705, subclass 40.

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group 1, Claims 35-39, drawn to a method of trading options, classified in class 705, subclass 40. This election is with traverse.

Applicants submit that claim 42 should be examined with Group 1. Both the Group 1 claims and claim 42 contain elements to creating multi-leg trading contracts. The elements of claim 42 can be searched with the elements present in Group 1 without serious burden to the Examiner since the inventions are classified in the same class and subclass. Furthermore, claims 43, 44, and 48 have been amended to depend from claim 35 and are properly included in Group 1. Thus, Applicants elect Group 1, claims 35-39, 43, 44, 48 and 49, with traverse.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, withdrawal of the restriction requirement and action on the merits is respectfully requested. In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: February 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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